

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DHHS's Gekas Steeby Receives National Rising Star Award

Lincoln – The National Academy for State Health Policy on Monday (10/19) awarded Catherine Gekas Steeby, a Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services employee, its Rising Star Award for 2015.

Gekas Steeby, of Lincoln, has been the eligibility policy and program accuracy administrator with the DHHS Medicaid and Long-Term Care division since 2012. The competitive award, recognizing accomplishments of those who have been working in and committed to effective state health policy for less than seven years, was presented at NASHP's annual meeting in Dallas.

"Being recognized for a job I believe in is an honor," said Gekas Steeby. "I know that every day, the work I do positively impacts the lives of clients I may never meet."



"Cat is very deserving of this recognition," said Courtney Phillips, DHHS Chief Executive Officer. "It speaks highly of her work and involvement in policy setting and leadership. We're certainly glad she is a member of TeamDHHS."

Trish Riley, NASHP executive director, thanked Gekas Steeby for her public service and welcomed her to the NASHP "family." "We look forward working with you throughout what is clearly your promising career," Riley said.

Gekas Steeby has been involved in major DHHS initiatives including the successful implementation of Nebraska's Medicaid interface with the Federally Facilitated Marketplace, the implementation of Medicaid for former foster care youth, and the transition and ongoing management of Medicaid eligibility determination from a different division in

DHHS to the Medicaid and Long-Term Care Division. She is currently involved in the development of a new enrollment and eligibility system for the state's Medicaid program.

Employed with DHHS since 2005, Gekas Steeby previously served as a case aide, a social services worker and social services supervisor.

She was recognized in 2014 for her leadership and management skills as the State's 2014 manager of the year for the Medicaid and Long-Term Care division.

Note: A high-resolution headshot image is available at:
<http://dhhs.ne.gov/PublishingImages/SteebyHeadshot.jpg>